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CHILTERN & WYCOMBE JOINT WASTE COLLECTION COMMITTEE 20 MARCH 2015

Summary of TEEP Assessment of the Joint Waste Service

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RECOMMENDATION

That the Joint Waste Collection Committee note the results of the TEEP assessment of the Joint Waste Service, to check compliance with Regulation 12 and Regulation 13 of the Waste Regulations of England & Wales, 2011 and that the service is re-assessed in 2017/18, prior to contract renewal or extension in 2020.

- This report provides a summary of the recent TEEP assessment of the Joint Waste Service (JWS), which checked the compliance of the service with Regulation 12 and Regulation 13 of the Waste Regulations of England & Wales, 2011. The Joint Waste Service was found to be compliant with both Regulations.
- 2. The EU Waste Framework Directive (WFD) 2008, introduced Regulation 12, which concerns the application of the waste hierarchy to all waste streams and Regulation 13, which introduces a duty to separately collect four types of recyclable material from January 2015; paper, glass, cans and plastic. The aim of the Regulation 13 is to improve the quality and quantities of materials collected. Separate collections of these four materials have now become the default method of collection. The WFD has been transposed into UK domestic law through the Waste Regulations for England and Wales, 2011.
- 3. The current JWS collects paper and cardboard separately and the packaging mix (glass, mixed plastics, mixed cans, tetrapaks) comingled in wheeled bins. This is described as a two stream collection. We can clearly demonstrate that the JWS is collecting a wide range of recyclables and that the waste hierarchy is applied to waste streams as much as is possible to do so, in compliance with Regulation 12.
- 4. To assess compliance with Regulation 13, it was necessary to appraise a range of separate collections to assess whether they were more likely to collect higher quantities of the four materials for recycling and to achieve a better quality. As paper and cardboard are collected separately, this element of the JWS is already compliant.
- 5. Glass, cans and plastics are collected comingled together and,..

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therefore, the **Necessity Test** was applied which determined whether these materials *should* be collected separately. The options appraisal scoped out the collection vehicles and labour required, the collection containers/capacity provided and range of materials that would be collected and how these changes impacted on the other services.

- 6. The separate collections require the provision of kerbside boxes with kerbside sorting into stillage vehicles with 5 compartments. A review of these arrangements, set within the context of retaining weekly food waste collections, revealed that residents would receive reduced recycling container capacity and a likely reduction in the range of materials collected.
- 7. In conclusion, based on the appraisals undertaken, a SWOT analysis and the results based evidence provided by the current service, in terms of quantity and quality, the current two stream service continues to provide the best option for Chiltern and Wycombe District Councils.
- 8. It was then necessary to appraise whether it was more technically, environmentally or economically practicable (**TEEP**) to provide separate collections as opposed to the current service. If the separate collections passed all three tests, then the authorities would be legally obliged to provide separate collections.
- 9. Separate collections failed the **technical test** due to difficulties in providing separate collections for flats and in providing a range of separate bulking bays at the London Road depot or elsewhere.
- 10. In the absence of software used to assess environmental impacts, separate collections passed the **environmental test**.
- 11. Separate collections failed the **economic test** for a number of reasons, including the increased number of collection vehicles required and a larger workforce with higher labour costs. The recent provision of over 94,000 blue wheeled bins would represent a wasted investment as these would be unsuitable for separate collections. It is also likely that that separate collections would have higher operational costs, including higher vehicle maintenance costs, full retention of a recycling site service due to reduced container capacity at the kerbside, increased supervision costs, etc. It is also possible that there may be transitional costs associated with breaking or altering the contract and these costs are likely to be unaffordable. The table below provides a comparison of the potential increase in vehicle capital costs and ongoing labour costs of separate collections as compared with the current service.

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Increased capital vehicle costs & increased labour costs

Option	% increase vehicle capital costs	% increase labour costs
Fortnightly source separated collections	10.51%	36.12%
Weekly source separated collections	14.52%	21.21%

- 12. In conclusion, the JWS was found to be compliant with Regulation 13 and now requires sign off by Head of Service/Directors and Head of Legal.
- 13. The assessment contains commercially confidential information and will be held within the Waste Team files in preparation for a possible review by the Environment Agency. Copies of the sign offs, including copies of relevant Cabinet and Committee items which provide evidence relating to the decision making behind the current service and any other supporting information, will be attached to the appraisal document.
- 14.It is necessary to document when the next review of the JWS's compliance against Regulation 13 will take place. The existing contract is due for extension or contract renewal in 2020. Given a procurement lead in time of approximately two years, soft market testing could potentially take place to test the economic viability of a source separated collection in 2017/18.

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